

In town today

Missouri Festival of Arts,
Lyric Theater, Boonville:
8 p.m. Soprano Carol Wilcox

State Fair, Sedalia:
6 and 9 p.m. Bobby Goldsboro
and Jerri Cox.

Exhibits

Opening: Columbia Photo
Gallery, Peter D. Miller and Jim
Hill, recent black and white
works, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Continuing: University Fine
Arts Gallery, University and
College Designers Association
displays publications, brochures,
posters and miscellaneous
printed materials, 9 a.m. to 3
p.m. Ellis Library, Italian
Baroque Drawings and Textiles
Through Two Millennia, 2 to 5 p.m.
Columbia Public Library, Scenes
From Columbia, watercolors by
Lois Mikrut, and 20th Century
Doll Collection, loaned by Lois
Miller.

Movie listings on Page 11C

Columbia Missourian

68th Year — No. 284

Good Morning! It's Wednesday, Aug. 25, 1976

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Ford Motor Co. to be strike target

DETROIT (UPI) — The United Auto Workers Tuesday zeroed in on Ford Motor Co. as its "strike target" to get a pattern contract for 680,000 U.S. and Canadian auto workers or face a strike at midnight Sept. 14.

Both UAW President Leonard Woodcock and Sidney F. McKenna, Ford labor vice president, said the 21 days remaining before current contracts covering 160,000 Ford workers expire is ample time to reach an agreement.

"There is nothing insurmountable to a settlement," Woodcock told newsmen

following the announcement of the decision by the union's 26-member international executive board.

"There are no complicated technical problems standing in the way and we are certainly going to do everything possible we can to settle it before the deadline on the 14th," he said.

Woodcock said the union's twin goals at Ford were job and income security.

To accomplish this, the union has asked for an improved wage formula, improvements in cost-of-living benefits that have helped auto workers stay nearly abreast of inflation, and an

unspecified number of paydays off each year in addition to 15 paid holidays and an average 15 days of vacation each year.

Woodcock said Ford was selected over General Motors and Chrysler because it has not been the target since 1967 and there were no compelling reasons or issues to take on the other members of the "Big Three."

Ford has been closed by national strikes twice before — for 66 days in 1967 and 17 days in 1961. It was hit by a 10-day walkout in 1941 which won the

UAW recognition to bargain for Ford workers.

A strike could send crippling ripples through the economy.

McKenna said he was not surprised that Ford was chosen over GM and Chrysler to offer the basic economic and fringe benefits package in the industry that affects 13 4 million jobs

He said he was not particularly unhappy about Ford being put in the lead and said there does not appear to be any great militancy among Ford workers for a strike.

"The factors (that caused a strike) in 1967 do not exist now," McKenna said. "I don't see any great militancy but we do know that a strike can always happen. It's a real risk and we know that."

The UAW this year will have a record \$175 million in its strike treasury when the three-year agreements expire — enough to provide strike benefits of \$40 to \$50 a week for Ford's 160,000 UAW members for 16 to 17 weeks.

The selection of Ford let General Motors, Chrysler and American Motors off the hook for the present time

Problems hit school busing

By Mike Penprase
and Victoria Wigginton
Missourian staff writers

Bottlenecks in the public school busing system which caused some kindergarten children to be two hours late for school Tuesday may be solved by importing drivers from Kansas City and St. Louis, according to the manager of the firm operating Columbia's school bus system.

Changing kindergarten bus routes and doubling or tripling routes to use buses more efficiently also may ease the situation, according to Randy Griggs, local manager for R. W. Harmon and Sons.

Griggs said much of the problem was caused when the company found itself short of drivers Tuesday, the first day of classes for kindergarteners, when 10 to 15 drivers did not appear for work.

The company had tried to hire drivers who worked last year, but almost half were college students who

did not arrive in town until this week, he said.

"We only had three weeks to set this up, to try to get routes set up, hire people and generally get into operation," Griggs said. After a drivers' meeting Friday, it appeared the operation was "under control," he said.

Drivers from Kansas City and St. Louis will work until a hiring agent can recruit drivers locally, Griggs said.

Much of the confusion centered on bus routes serving kindergarten students, Griggs said the company had only three days to prepare the bus routes. He said much of the information supplied by school principals was insufficient, giving only the kindergarteners' names and rural route numbers and no specific locations of pickup points.

While answering a telephone that was jammed with calls, Griggs said "we got off on the wrong foot" in regard to the (See SOME, Page 16A)

Wright denies knowledge of Doisy's whereabouts

By Victoria Wigginton
Missourian staff writer

Johnny Wright, wanted by Columbia police for questioning in connection with the disappearance of Rebecca Doisy, appeared voluntarily before St. Louis police Tuesday.

In a 45-minute interview, Wright told agents of the fugitive division that the publicity had given him a "bad name" and he wanted to "get the matter cleared up."

Miss Doisy, 23, was last seen about 6:30 p.m. Aug. 5 at a Columbia residence in the company of a man identified as Wright. Her

disappearance was discovered two days later when she failed to appear for work at a local restaurant.

According to Wright's lawyer, Bruce Nangle, Wright described the events of Aug. 5 to St. Louis police, telling them that he had seen Miss Doisy that day but had gone alone to St. Louis to clear up "a family matter." Wright told police that he found out about Miss Doisy's disappearance by reading it in a newspaper four or five days later.

Wright apparently went underground, fearing the publicity connecting him with the (See MISSING, Page 16A)



Capt. Bob Renich of the Boone County Fire Protection District waits for water at the White Truck Co. on U.S. 63 North. (Missourian photo by Lynn Israel)

Flash fire damages company

By Jim Price
Missourian staff writer

Bob Rice, manager of Mid-Missouri Trucks, Inc., U.S. 63 South, had planned to spend Tuesday supervising the start of construction on a 90-foot (27-meter) addition to his company's building. Instead, he spent the day cleaning up and assessing the damage done by a morning fire that gutted the blue metal structure and injured one of his employees.

Rice said the damage to the building and contents would total more than \$500,000.

A mechanic, Ron Jackson, 21, Ashland, was burned when his pants caught on fire as a gasoline spill he was cleaning inside the building burst into flames. He was in fair condition at Boone County Hospital Tuesday.

The fire quickly spread through the building, turning it into a metal shell filled with charred wood and twisted metal.

Mid-Missouri Trucks, which sells and services semi-trailers and tractors, is located across the highway from the KOMU-TV studios. The planned addition would have increased the size of the building by about one-half.

"It would have doubled our truck capacity — our repair capacity," Rice said. Then, after a pause, he said, "It will, let's put it that way. We're going to build it again."

John Chambers, company president, expressed similar determination when he said, "We'll be back in business in 48 hours."

Harry Rader, a mechanic at the firm, said four employees were cleaning up a gasoline spill in the northeast corner of the service area when the gasoline ignited, apparently from a nearby water heater. Jackson was sweeping the gasoline toward a drain and another employee was flushing the 20-by-20-foot (6-by-6-meter) area with water, Rader said.

"He was there and then all of a (See FLAMES, Page 16A)

Group forms to retain sales tax on food, drugs

By Jim Cloud
State capital bureau

JEFFERSON CITY — A coalition of government, business, labor and farm leaders was formed Tuesday to fight the proposed constitutional amendment to exempt food and drugs from the sales tax.

Robert M. White II, publisher of the Mexico Ledger, will serve as chairman of the group to be known as Concerned Missourians against the Food and Drug Amendment. The group will be headquartered here.

While the committee's formation

announcement was being made, a group of Missouri clergymen supporting the amendment met with State Treasurer James Spainhower, but failed to change his opposition to the proposal.

Spainhower said the tax exemption "would not provide enough relief to poor people to justify the damage that would be done to other services." If the amendment is passed, Spainhower said, he fears the legislature would replace the loss in revenue with sales tax increases "that would not be any more equitable."

"This tax exemption proposal is a mistaken and ill-conceived effort, however well-intentioned," White said. "Rather than helping the poor, as it purports to do, it will deprive them of much-needed government programs and services."

The Rev. Rhodes Thompson, a St. Louis minister and member of the delegation, told Spainhower the present sales tax on food is a social injustice because it taxes life's necessities. The tax is an especially unfair burden on poor and lower middle-class families and individuals because a higher

percentage of their income goes for such a tax, Thompson said.

"Our basic position is that Missouri will never meet its education and other social services needs as long as this unfair tax is relied upon to support these services," Thompson said. He said an alternative to the sales tax on food and drugs is to increase corporate tax rates, which he says are too low.

State revenue officials estimate the state would lose about \$140 million in tax revenues in the next fiscal year if the exemption passes. More than 160 cities and transit authorities that levy a local sales tax would lose a total of

about \$40 million a year.

The proposal will be on the Nov. 2 general election ballot.

In addition to White and Spainhower, those serving on the committee in opposition to the proposal are Lt. Gov. William Phelps, St. Louis Mayor John Poelker, Missouri State Labor Council president Vincent Van Camp, Missouri Farm Bureau President C. B. Johnston, Midcontinent Farmers Association Vice President Clell Carpenter, former University President Elmer Ellis and former University curator Avis Tucker, a Warrensburg publisher.

Members of the delegation which

lobbied Spainhower were active in helping gather the signatures needed to put the amendment on the ballot. Petitions were circulated by members of the Missouri Association of Community Organization for Reform Now (ACORN).

Those against the amendment say the tax exemption would make administration of the state sale tax much more complex. The increased complexity would result in increased costs of collection by merchants which likely will be passed on to consumers, opponents say.

Sen. Dole accepted money for ads he disavowed

N.Y. Times Service

TOPEKA, Kan. — Federal election records on file here show that Sen. Robert J. Dole, the Republican vice presidential nominee, accepted as a 1974 campaign contribution the cost of anti-abortion advertisements that he said last Sunday he had disavowed.

The ads, placed in several major Kansas papers a few days before the senatorial election, depicted a skull and crossbones. One crossbone was the word "abortion," the other "euthanasia." The ad said, "Vote for Life! Bob Dole will support a human life amendment. Vote for Dole."

Dole's opponent in the 1974 senatorial campaign here, Dr. William A. Roy, then a member of Congress, has charged that Dole "orchestrated the vicious" last-minute campaign against him by anti-abortion forces around the

state that Roy feels cost him the election.

Dole has consistently denied that he orchestrated the campaign, and on "Face the Nation," a television panel show, last Sunday he acknowledged that he had been "accused of that, and all sorts of things; and frankly ended up the last two days of our campaign disavowing ads that some right-to-lifers were running in the papers."

He said in the same interview that he had ended up disavowing the "skull and crossbone ads."

However, at a news conference the day before the election in 1974, Dole did not disavow any ads.

William Wolford, Dole's administrative assistant, said in a telephone interview Tuesday that the campaign attempted to disavow the ads by reaching the newspapers that ran them.

"These ads were placed without our

knowledge," Wolford said. "They were not authorized in advance."

According to federal records reviewed by The New York Times, filed after the campaign was over, Dole accepted "in kind" contributions of \$288 56 from Mrs. Esther Sur, of Shawnee Mission, Kan., for five insertions of an ad in separate papers. Mrs. Sur is the signer of an ad placed by the Eastern Kansas Right to Life Organization that carried a skull and crossbones.

Mrs. Sur, reached by telephone, said she had decided "to have no comment on this." Asked whether the funds for the advertisement came from Dole supporters, she said, "Well, I think you'll have to find that out from somebody else." She declined to continue the interview.

According to federal records, Dole also accepted another "in kind" political contribution from Dr. Paul

Burger of Shawnee Mission, Kan., for "postage."

Burger said in an interview that he could not specifically remember what expenditures he might have made for Dole, but thought it might have been postage to mail an announcement of a fund-raising event. Burger is also an official of the Kansas Right to Life Organization.

According to Roy and his staff members and supporters, a barrage of radio advertisements, newspaper ads, direct-mail advertising and hand-delivered pamphlets attacking Roy's position on abortion took place in the last weeks of the campaign.

In the 1974 Kansas Senate race, Dole, though a Republican in this historically Republican state, was in political trouble. His party was hurt by Watergate and even his most ardent supporters here were admitting by late summer that he had an uphill fight. Polls taken

at that time showed Roy with an absolute advantage.

Meanwhile, the right-to-life groups, which at that time claimed about 600 members statewide, were pressing for a constitutional amendment that would reverse the Supreme Court's ruling that permitted abortions.

On Oct. 5, 1974, less than a month before the election, Dole appeared before the Right to Life state convention in Hays, Kan. He is quoted as telling an audience of 150: "If you want a human life amendment (to the Constitution), then elect those who will support your position. The people must be asked to speak. We must ask the American people what they want."

He also reportedly told the group, "I say I am against the interruption of human life and the law ought to oppose this interruption." He also said, "that's what right to life's all about — the interruption of human life."



Sen. Robert Dole

UPI telephoto